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Thule Times Editorial Staff

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AF revises fitness program

Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The need for a "clear, understandable and simpler" fitness program will mean significant changes to the Air Force's current fitness program, said the service's top officer during a senior leadership conference held June 4 through 6 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz met with the service's other four stars at CORONA TOP where one of the key agenda items was Air Force fitness.

His intent was to fine tune fitness testing, promote a year-round fitness culture and send a clear message that health and fitness are critical to mission readiness.

"Fitness is a vital component of Air Force culture," General Schwartz said. "These challenging times underscore the importance of properly caring for our most valuable resource: our Airmen."

The Air Force's top enlisted leader agreed that good fitness is a fundamental requirement for Air Force warriors.

"Maintaining the proper fitness levels is really about maintaining combat capability," said Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley. "Being fit can make the difference between life and death for Airmen when actions require concentrated physical activity on or near the battlefield."

Chief McKinley explained that Airmen must constantly hone their fitness abilities to withstand and overcome the demanding rigors of deployment and combat.

"Airmen must present the proper military appearance and project to the American public our ability to defend our nation and its interests," the chief said.

While commanders have responsibility of their unit fitness programs, each Airman is responsible for meeting and maintaining fit-

ness standards 365 days a year, said Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, the Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel.

"With these program revisions and enhancements, we encourage a culture of fitness, empowering all Airmen to take responsibility for being physically mission ready," General Newton said.

General Newton added that the new Air Force instruction, projected for publication in July 2009, will better emphasize the service's fitness expectations of its Airmen. Who will conduct the testing, when and how Airmen will test are among the most significant revisions to the fitness program, which takes effect January 2010.

Perhaps the most significant difference in fitness testing will be its frequency, Air Force officials said. Full-time active-duty Airmen will now test twice each year, and most reservists or guardsmen will continue to test once per year.

To maximize testing objectivity, the AFI designates trained civilian proctors to conduct fitness tests administered at new centralized locations called fitness assessment cells.

Aerobic fitness is the best indicator of current and future health risk, followed by body composition, said Lt. Col. Scott Arcuri, the chief of promotions, evaluations, and fitness policy at the Air Staff. Because of this, the aerobic run will now account for 60 percent of the test (previously 50 percent), body composition will account for 20 percent (previously 30 percent), while sit-ups and push-ups remain at 10 percent each.

"We developed evidence-driven, health based criterion standards for aerobic fitness and body composition and muscle fitness," Colonel Arcuri said. "Airmen can be confident the new standards and corresponding points have sound rationale behind them."

----- *Fitness,*
See page 8

Commander says farewell to Team Thule

Col. Thomas Peppard
821st Air Base Group
commander

My time as a base commander is rapidly approaching its end, and this assignment has been nothing short of phenomenal.

It was clear to me early that Team Thule is more than a slogan; it is a way of life at Thule. We are a multinational community consisting of Danish, Greenlandic, Canadian and American military, contractors and civilians. We all work, live and play together 700 miles inside the Arctic Circle, sharing a unique "Top of the World" experience while exchanging cultural activities.

Numerous dignitaries visited Team Thule over the past year to include the vice chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, vice chief of staff of the Air Force, Air Force Space Command commander and chief master sergeant of the Air Force, just to name a few. They all came to see the mission and the people, and they all left with a strong sense of Thule pride and a commitment to Thule.

Winning the 2009 Commander-in-Chief's Installation Excellence Award was just another great highlight for the 821st Support Squadron's teamwork. Our civil engineer team developed the Base Consolidation and Energy Reduction Plan that will reduce use of 2.2 million gallons of fuel annually, save \$9 million in operating costs and repair aging infrastructure. The plan was recognized as a 2009 Air Force "Best Practice."

Our 821st Security For-

ces Squadron continues the long heritage and tradition of defending our critical resources and protecting the Thule Defense Area, working hand-in-hand with the Danish police inspector. The defenders have moved into their new alarm center, and they are just weeks away from moving into a state-of-the-art armory.

We continued to improve Thule's quality of life by completing an upgrade to our outstanding Sports and Fitness Center. We have moved the Airmen's Center to the Community Center for all of Team Thule to utilize with eight flat screen TVs for gaming. We are in the final stages of construction of our Professional Development Center that will provide our Airmen with a much improved educational classroom. We also began upgrading our dayrooms in the enlisted dorms.

We recently provided a technical solution for our number one QoL issue: internet access. We have created 100 web educational accounts that will allow our Airmen government access to most college online campuses, and we are in the final stages of providing free internet access to Airmen at the Community Center.

Over the last year Team Thule has shared many experiences together, from BOXTOP to BRILLIANT ICE, supporting the resupply missions of Canadian and Danish outpost; from 24 hours of darkness to 24 hours of daylight; from a medical evacuation mission of a National Science Foundation team member from Camp Summit, to recovering from



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Col. Thomas Peppard speaks with native Greenlander Rosa

a flood that washed out the ballistic missile early warning site road, to successfully passing the 2009 operational readiness and unit compliance inspections. What a year!

As I reflect on the last year, I will remember the people of Team Thule and how they got the mission done regardless of the harsh Arctic weather. I will cherish the friendship Team Thule provided me. I will remember the raw beauty

of Greenland, the spectacular sunsets, the ocean front view from my office and the experiences of Thule Trippin.'

I thank Team Thule for an unbelievable year; I appreciate everyone's sacrifices, and I wish you continued success!

Editor's Note: Colonel Peppard will be stationed at Air Force Space Command Headquarters, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., as the director of safety.

Radar upgrades move nation closer to possible MDS

1st Lt. Lisa Meiman
821st Air Base Group
Public Affairs

The first complete shift using the upgraded early warning system software took place the night of June 23 through the morning of June 24, making Thule's ballistic missile early warning radar the third radar to complete its upgrade.

The upgrade completes another step toward a fully-operational missile defense system for the United States and its friends and allies.

"We're making history here. We're the first crew that did the mission differently here than the crews in 1987," said 2nd Lt. Talaya Jones, 12th Space Warning Squadron and one of the crew members on UEWR's first shift.

While UEWR will be in a trial period for the next few months, the operators of the 12th SWS plan never to return to the old 1987 system, referred to as "Legacy" by its crews.

"The UEWR system now continuously feeds information to missile warning, missile defense and space surveillance agencies back in the States," said Lt. Col. Dave Meteyer, 12th SWS commander. "However, if the new system were to go down for any reason, we can still fall back on the Legacy system, which is on standby."

The UEWR upgrade process included no external hardware changes to the radar. In fact, no one would know looking at the radar that there had been changes. The upgrades were primarily internal and related to data-processing hardware and software.

"It's a more advanced system that allows operators to see more information and more effectively accomplish missile warning, missile de-

fense and space surveillance missions," Colonel Meteyer said.

"The upgrades definitely make it easier to utilize the weapon system," said Capt. Keith Harrigan, another crew member on the shift. "It allows you to visualize what the radar is seeing much better than before. Now we can better see where the objects are going and what path they are taking with an interactive 3D interface."

Previously, the radar had operated under a software program that had more in common with the "War Game" movie than the 21st century. Operators used a large desktop monitor with monochrome screen, light pen—the precursor to the computer mouse—and relied on thick binders of information to effectively track missile launches and space objects.

The UEWR system introduced flat screen computers, color, computer mice and increased computer memory and computing speed to a new missile warning operations center where operators work 24/7.

"I enjoy the new system because it is something I can relate to as part of my generation," Lieutenant Jones said.

The comparison between the new and old systems is impressive. Instead of a mere 23 megabytes of random-access memory, UEWR provides 16 gigabytes with a four terabyte hard drive. The old system had a 10-megahertz central processing unit; UEWR boasts 32 one-gigahertz CPUs. UEWR also provides real-time recording data from the two radar faces.



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Capt. Keith Harrigan, 12th Space Warning Squadron, performs missile warning and space surveillance missions in the new upgraded early warning radar missile warning operations center June 24 at Thule's ballistic missile early warning system. His shift was the first fully operational shift run entirely by UEWR. The UEWR system introduced flat screen computers, color, computer mice and increased computer memory and computing speed.

"This is not your father's missile warning system," said Capt. William Weiford, the third member of the crew. "The interface is much more user friendly."

UEWR also provides more accurate identification of object parts, separating, for instance, a missile's re-entry system from its launch components. This improved capability is the primary reason for the upgrade and is critical to ensuring the success of any missile defense engagement. However, another major advantage of the upgrade is it significantly improves the unit's ability to conduct space surveillance operations. This improvement is due to both a more effective operator interface and substantially more capable data processing capability.

The UEWR system did not come online with the flick of a switch. The 12th SWS spent nearly two years preparing for the new system to include construction, testing and crew training. More personnel were stationed at Thule to cover the additional workload, but the squadron still worked long hours and several weekends.

The UEWR system still requires a three-person crew as did the old system, but will ideally require less maintenance and trouble-shooting to sustain operations.

Thule's radar primarily watches the skies over the North Pole for land- or submarine-based missile launches. An important secondary mission is tracking about 10 percent of the world's space catalogue or about 475 objects per day. The radar is powerful enough to spot a softball-sized object 3,000 nautical miles away, or from New York to Los Angeles comparably. This information is critical in preparing space launches to avoid collisions in space.

"The completion of the upgrades means we're going to be at Thule for years to come. The site's longevity has significantly increased," Colonel Meteyer said.

The two other radar sites that already implemented the UEWR changes are in Beale Air Force Base, Calif., and Royal Air Force Fylingdales, England.

Birth of a nation

Thule witnesses historic event in Greenland

1st Lt. Lisa Meiman
821st Air Base Group
Public Affairs

Team Thule witnessed a historic day in Greenland June 21 as native Greenlanders celebrated taking charge of their own domestic affairs during the annual Greenlandic National Day celebration in nearby Dundas Village.

"It's Greenland's Independence Day," said Rosa Kanuthsen, Greenland Contractors employee and native Greenland. "It's very important to me. It is as important to me as July 4th is to an American."

Hundreds of Greenlanders from the area of Qaanaaq, Greenland, traveled by boat and plane to Thule Air Base to participate in the ceremony.

They were joined by the Danish, American and Canadian residents of Thule to experience the remarkable event. While Greenlandic National Day has served as an important opportunity for Team Thule and native Greenlanders to share their cultures and visit with one another in the past, this year's celebration was particularly important as Greenland gained control over their domestic affairs from Denmark.

Ms. Kanuthsen was so excited that she wore her native Greenlandic apparel to the celebration June 21—clothes she hadn't worn in four years.

"It's a milestone in Greenlandic history—from being a Danish colony until 1953, where it became part of the Danish kingdom with home

rule influence starting in 1979, to today where it enters a new era with self government," said Royal Danish Air Force Lt. Col. John Blågreen, Danish Liaison Officer. "It's a big challenge for Greenland with practicing economic responsibility and extending and improving their educational system."

"This is not something you think you are ever going to see," said Canadian Forces Capt. Craig Chiasson, 12th Space Warning Squadron. "You don't think in high school that you are going to see a new country being formed."

The quasi-Independence Day took place on the traditionally important day of June 21, the longest day of the year. When Greenland Home Rule, Greenland legislators in Danish parliament and in Greenland cities and towns, was created in 1979, June 21 was chosen to represent Greenlandic National Day, a day to celebrate national identity and common cultural values.

The celebration began in the Top of the World Club on Thule Air Base during an informal dinner June 20. Native drummers and a band from Qaanaaq provided entertainment to the multinational crowd. On June 21, the Qaanaaq visitors and Team Thule drove to Dundas Village to participate in a flag-raising ceremony and traditional Inuit meal.

The meal included narwhal blubber, fried herring, musk ox, halibut and guillemot—a common bird—and some Danish dishes including pastas and Danish meatballs.



Photos by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman



Above: The Greenland flag is raised for the first time over independent Greenland June 21 in Dundas Village. Greenland's parliament now has full control over domestic affairs. The increased sovereignty came as a result of a 2008 referendum. June 21, a historically important day for Greenland's native populations, was chosen as the day the referendum's decision would take effect.

Left: Two Inuit drummers from Qaanaaq, Greenland, perform native songs and dance using a traditional drum made of animal bone and stomach skin during the Greenland National Day dinner at the Top of the World Club June 21.

"I enjoyed learning more about the Greenlandic culture and food, especially on such an important day in their history," said Maj. Matt Morand, 12th SWS director of operations.

Previously, Greenland had been a protectorate of the Kingdom of Denmark, but Greenlanders voted for increased political and economical independence from

Denmark in a 2008 referendum. A decision that took effect June 21 when Greenland Home Rule transferred decision-making authority and self governance to the Greenland parliament elected June 2.

The Danish government will still maintain Greenland's foreign diplomacy and security and will give a block grant to Greenland.

AF announces FY10 force structure realignments

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force officials here announced June 26 its proposed force structure realignment for fiscal 2010.

The announcement addresses the Air Force's force structure, realignment and management actions supported by the president's fiscal 2010 budget and summarizes the civilian and military personnel changes as well as the reassignment of aircraft at bases for the upcoming fiscal year.

It reflects adjustments which will provide unsurpassed global vigilance, global reach and global power ... to fly, fight and win in air, space and cyber-

space -- today and in the future, given available resources.

"The force structure announcement reflects our best effort to meet the expanding Air Force mission areas and growing joint demands," said Gen. Norton Schwartz, the Air Force chief of staff.

The announcement does not include programmatic actions in fiscal 2011 and beyond.

"We've made some hard choices," General Schwartz said. "However, we believe this is the best overall design to meet America's national security needs and support to the joint fight."

The announcement specifies the force structure changes experienced by the total force: Air Force active duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve. Implementation of these actions will occur only after completion of appropriate environmental analyses.

For more details about the Fiscal 2010 Force Structure realignment, read the Fiscal Year 2010 Force Structure Announcement at <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-090626-085.pdf> or review the Fiscal Year 2010 Force Structure Briefing at <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-090626-084.pdf>

AFSPC resources increased by FY10 force structuring

Tech. Sgt. Kimberley Harrison & Maj. Vanessa Hillman
Air Force Space Command
Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. -- The Air Force released its proposed FY10 force structure announcement today, supported by the FY10 President's Budget, resulting in an increase in personnel throughout Air Force Space Command, civilian and military.

"The proposed increase of approximately 700 positions across the command will help AFSPC meet our ongoing commitment to space and cyberspace missions," said General C. Robert Kehler, commander of AFSPC.

Final decisions will be made only after the appropriate environmental analyses have been completed and the National Environmental Protection Act conformity requirements have been met,

according to the USAF Force Structure announcement.

"The proposed Air Force end strength supports its emerging Total Force missions to provide unsurpassed Global Vigilance, Global Reach and Global Power...to fly, fight and win in air, space and cyberspace. It also complements AFSPC's recently released vision statement" he said.

VISION: Vital to today's fight and the future of US national security, Air Force Space Command will be the leading source of emerging and integrated space and cyberspace capabilities to deliver responsive, assured and decisive power to America and its warfighting commands.

The force structure announcement is a result of the continual review process ensuring Air Force senior leaders are using their manpower positions and assets for the

highest priorities.

"A balanced approach means finding the right balance between prevailing in today's operations with today's capabilities, while simultaneously investing in new capabilities and force structure to meet tomorrow's threats," said Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley.

According to the report, the force structure changes will enhance the Air Force's ability to create, protect and sustain all air, space and cyberspace forces across the full range of military operations and will help the Service meet Joint and Air Force recapitalization benchmarks.

"America's ability to operate effectively across the spectrum of conflict is enabled by our space and cyberspace capabilities. The Air Force is "All In" today's Joint fight and AFSPC is fully engaged as shown in our mission statement," General

Kehler said.

MISSION: AFSPC provides an integrated constellation of space and cyberspace capabilities at the speed of need. This unique capacity and perspective, fielded by a battle-ready, responsive and forward-thinking team of America's best, is the engine behind precision strike, global awareness and data connectivity capabilities crucial to the Joint Forces and key to the future US military advantage.

Operating within the cyberspace domain has become an increasingly critical requirement for our networked force. The force structure changes will better reflect the missions AFSPC Airmen are accomplishing, such as providing early warning, space situational awareness, military satellite communications, positioning, navigation and timing and weather capabilities.



Photos by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

General William M. Fraser III, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, meets with 821st Security Forces Squadron Airmen beginning their Guard Mount June 15. General Fraser visited Thule for the first time June 14-16 to learn about the mission, people and daily life at Thule. He spent much of his time visiting with Airmen in their work centers and hearing their perspectives on the challenges and benefits of being stationed at Thule.

Vice Chief visits Thule Airmen

1st Lt. Lisa Meiman
821st Air Base Group Public Affairs

The Air Force's second highest-ranking military officer paid his first visit to Thule June 14-16 to better understand the mission, daily life and issues facing Airmen stationed there.

"Thule is one of the most unique installations I have visited," said Gen. William M. Fraser III, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force. "The challenges Airmen face here are unlike any in the rest of the Air Force. And the same is true for the opportunities they are presented."

----- VCSAF,
See page 7



Staff Sgt. Mike Eickhoff, 12th Space Warning Squadron, asks General Fraser about the future of missile defense during General Fraser's commander's call in the Top of the World Club June 15. After speaking about the five Air Force priorities and the importance of the space based missions at Thule, General Fraser answered several questions from the audience spanning from the status of GPS to the recently released uniform board results.

----- VCSAF,
From page 6

General Fraser visited with Airmen across Thule, sharing meals with members of the Rising VI, Top 3 and CGO council organizations. He also held a commander's call where he discussed, among other things, the five Air Force priorities and the importance of the space surveillance and the satellite command and control missions at Thule.

"Most importantly, though, during your short time here, you need to leave Thule a better place than when you arrived for the benefit of not just the Air Force but also the Airmen who will be stationed here after you," General Fraser said. "That's key for this and any assignment you have in your Air Force career. It should always be one of your goals to leave an assignment better than when you arrived."

He also took questions from the audience about a wide range of topics including the recent uniform board results and the status of GPS and other space systems.

The Vice Chief of Staff spent two days touring the base, visiting Airmen where they work and witnessing the missions in action. He even participated in an activity done by nearly all Thule Airmen: Thule Trippin'. He visited the polar ice cap less than 20 miles from the base, visited P-Mountain—the site of a former Thule tenant unit—and toured the ice caves.

"The Airmen here are just like those in the rest of the Air Force: responsible, courteous, professional and experts in their field," General Fraser said. General Fraser assured Airmen at Thule that



Photos by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman



Above: Capt. Mike Balzotti, 821st Support Squadron flight operations flight commander, discusses the Thule runway, the Air Force's only white runway, to General Fraser during an airfield tour. General Fraser visited nearly all of Thule's facilities including three types of dormitories, two power plants, the fitness center, dining facility, community center and the operational sites during his stay.

Left: Staff Sgt. Cedric Hill, 12th Space Warning Squadron, demonstrates the upgraded early warning radar system to General Fraser in the UEWR missile warning operations center June 16. General Fraser also witnessed the Legacy system currently used for radar operations. The switch from Legacy to UEWR is scheduled for this summer.

he returns to Washington with a better sense of the unique challenges the remote location faces, and would be

working closely with his staff to find solutions to these challenges.

"Thule is a remarkable

place with many opportunities for Airmen to develop both professionally and personally," General Fraser said.

----- Fitness,
From page 1

Colonel Arcuri also stated that the points awarded within each component directly reflect health risk and fitness and are designed to reward incremental fitness improvements.

Senior leaders said in order to pass the test, Airmen will be required to have a composite score of 75 but also will need to meet minimum requirements for each component.

Air Force officials said age range requirements will be simplified to five categories: less than 30, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60-plus years of age. Additionally, because overall fitness is a readiness issue, fitness results will be categorized using operational readiness or unit compliance inspection-type ratings. Those scoring 90 and above will be "Excellent;" those scoring between 75 and 90 will be "Satisfactory;" and those scoring under 75 will be "Unsatisfactory."

"The time has come for all Airmen to better integrate fitness into their daily lives," said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Long, the Air Staff enlisted promotions, evaluations and physical fitness chief.

Chief Long said the new AFI will provide commanders clear guidance on recommended actions based on the number of failed tests.

Chief McKinley noted that making a commitment to fitness puts the respon-



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Thule members participate in a Sports Day June 19 outside the fitness center. The day began with a 2-mile run around base and then an hour of activity inside the fitness center.

sibility on each Airman to get in shape and remain wartime ready year-round.

"Proper fitness is an important aspect of an overall healthy lifestyle," Chief McKinley said. "When our Airmen are fit, eat healthy and reduce risk factors such as tobacco use and irresponsible alcohol consumption, their health will improve, they will visit the hospital less, and in the end, Tricare costs will be reduced."

Failure to comply with the new fitness standards could impact more than an Airman's waistlines. The new AFI links unsatisfactory fitness test performance directly to enlisted and officer performance reports. Chief McKinley said the upcoming revised evaluation AFI will ensure no Airman can have a referral en-

listed performance report for fitness and receive an overall five rating.

The rewritten AFI mandates that fitness compliance be reported from unit to wing to major command for review.

General Newton asserts that while the Air Force fitness AFI outlines Airman's responsibilities, the Air Force Fitness Management System will be enhanced to provide detailed post-test feedback designed to help Airmen improve in targeted areas.

Airmen will be able to view component scoring charts in the new AFI. Further questions on the program can be directed to Colonel Arcuri, Lt. Col. John Giles and Chief Long at DSN's 224-8270, 222-4532 and 227-1661 respectively.

Thule Spotlight



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

No WITCHES WERE HARMED IN THE MAKING OF THIS BONFIRE

Team Thule celebrates midsummer with a witch-burning bonfire, a Danish tradition, on Skt Hans (St. John's) Day June 23. After the bonfire, which used a cardboard cutout of a witch figure, attendees enjoyed a small barbeque cook out. In Denmark, Skt Hans Day was celebrated before Christianity was introduced; instead, the day celebrated Scandinavian gods Odin and Thor. The tradition then transformed to celebrate the birth of John the Baptist, who is recorded to have been born June 24, but Denmark celebrates the night before. The figure of the witch burning on the traditional bonfire was added more than a century ago. It was rumored that the night before Skt Hans Day, the witches of Europe had their greatest celebration of the year with a feast in Germany, Iceland and Norway.

New inprocessing program simplifies process

Staff reports

The days of waiting weeks to complete a permanent change of station in-processing voucher for active-duty Air Force members will soon become a thing of the past. The PCS in-processing system (PIPS) has been employed in the Air Force.

The first sites to utilize PIPS for initial operating capability were Altus Air Force Base, Okla., and Little Rock AFB, Ark. The PIPS program management office is currently working with bases to plan for future deployments.

PIPS offers a secure, paperless way to submit PCS-related financial documents with automated assistance to the member. This process is accomplished using a "wizard approach" to guide the members through PCS in-processing by presenting an interactive interview session that will explain PCS entitlements based on information provided by member.

"Because we know this may be a confusing period in a military career, we focused on the need for an accurate, relevant information exchange," said Senior Airman Richard Armstrong, 821st Air Base Group finance office.

PIPS can be accessed via a secure Web site application, eFinance, using their common access card and pin.

"Once a user navigates to the PIPS site, the system will use easy-to-understand question and answer sessions to take the member through the process of PCS travel from start to finish," said Master Sgt. Ben Manalastas, 821st ABG comptroller. "The 'wizard' technology will make it virtually impossible to overlook even the smallest detail when completing a PCS-In voucher."

When a member starts using PIPS, they will be asked whether they are PCSing to an overseas location or within the continental United States. PIPS will use this response to present a briefing containing the correct information based on where they are going. Included in this briefing are links to entitlements, rates payable, and frequently asked questions relative to the PCS move. The information provided includes:

- Travel Entitlements: mileage, per diem and dislocation allowance
- Basic Allowance for Housing
- Temporary Lodging Expense
- Family Separation Allowance
- Enlisted Meal Deductions
- Advance Military Pay

- Advance Basic Allowance for Housing
- Cost of Living Allowance
- Temporary Lodging Allowance (Outside the continental US only)
- Overseas Housing Allowance (OCONUS only)
- Hardship Duty Pay-Location (OCONUS only)
- Imminent Danger Pay (OCONUS only)
- Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (OCONUS only)

PIPS also has a briefing area where the local financial services office can include a tailored briefing or provide location-specific information for the member to review. The FSO can supply base-specific contact information, hours of operation or other information that customers may need.

For members arriving at their new duty station, PIPS will automate and standardize the documentation portion of the financial services in-processing briefing.

"By using PIPS, members will be able to initiate and complete their financial services in-processing from anywhere in the world using a CAC-enabled computer," Sergeant Manalastas said.

AF updates uniform board decisions

Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force officials today announced policy updates in the 98th Virtual Uniform Board decisions posted June 10.

The following provides a snapshot of approved uniform wear. Follow-on messages will be released that contain detailed guidance and instructions. All information will be incorporated into AFI 36-2903.

-- Effective Oct. 1, 2010, trousers on utility uniforms will be tucked into boots and give a bloused appearance. Tucking had previously been

optional.

-- The green fleece formerly worn only as the All-Purpose Environmental Clothing System liner is authorized Air Force-wide as an outer-wear garment. The addition of the name, rank and service designators to the green fleece when worn as an outer-wear garment is authorized.

-- Airmen may use personal cellular telephones while in uniform and walking. Cell phones may be worn on either left or right side; however, the cell phone must be a conservative color. Military customs and courtesies are required and take precedence. Talking on a phone is no excuse for not salut-

ing. Still prohibited is wearing hands-free devices such as cell phones attachments worn on the ears.

-- Enlisted chevrons will be worn on light weight blue jacket sleeves instead of the metal rank insignias on the collar effective Jan. 1, 2010.

-- The ends of boot laces must be tucked into boots. Wrapping the laces around boot is authorized.

-- The length of airman battle uniform lower leg pocket will increase by approximately 1/2 inch.

-- Upper sleeve pockets are authorized on fire-resistant clothing authorized for the Central Command region.

-- Airmen earning and

awarded the Army Parachute Riggers badge are authorized permanent wear on all uniform combinations. For the airman battle uniform and the battle dress uniform, the badge will be blue. On the desert combat uniform the approved color is brown.

-- Wearing the black Army Air Assault Badge on the battle dress uniform is authorized upon graduation from Air Assault School.

-- Organizational ball caps are not authorized to be attached to either lower leg cargo pockets on the BDU trousers.

-- The female ABU trouser fly buttons will be the same as on men's pants.

Promotion



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Staff Sgt. Sada Jolley

CONGRATULATIONS!

Staff Sgt. Michael Eickhoff, 12th Space Warning Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Michelle Urdiales, 821st Air Base Group, cut the cake celebrating their selection to technical sergeant June 19 in the Top of the World Club. Staff Sgt. Robert Miller, 821st Security Forces Squadron, was also selected for technical sergeant, but was unable to attend the recognition ceremony.



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Thule Changes of Command



Photos by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Lt. Col. Jack Oldenburg, 12th Space Warning Squadron commander



Capt. Kim Lee, 821st Security Forces Squadron commander



Capt. Mike Duncan, 22nd Space Operations Squadron Detachment 3 commander



JULY EVENTS

Sunday**Monday****Tuesday****Wednesday****Thursday****Friday****Saturday**

			1	2	3 Pituffik Poker Tour CC	4 Independence Day Softball tour- nament 1300 CC Dundas golf 1300 Mount Dundas BBQ CC
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Trip to D- Launch CC
12	13	14	15	16	17 ABG/CC fare- well dinner 1830 TOW	18 Cabin tour BBQ CC
19 5&10K run gym	20	21	22	23 821 ABG CoC 1500 TOW	24	25 Site Manager's Cup behind old hospital Tour de Thule gym
26 Softball League every Sunday CC	27	28	29	30 SPTS CoC TOW	31	

CORONA yields new requirements

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) - Air Force senior leaders addressed numerous strategic and personnel issues, from manpower re-alignment to uniform changes to nuclear enterprise initiatives, when they met here for CORONA TOP June 4 through 6.

"This is a forum where we need to address everything from fundamental strategic issues to tactical challenges," said Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, Air Force Chief of Staff, in his opening remarks.

The senior leaders decided there will be manpower changes in a select number of Air Operations Centers to balance resources based on operational requirements and limited resources. The most significant effort still underway is the study of Air Forces Central, the warfighting component to the U.S. Central Command.

The results of a recent review of all rated staff officer positions, which identified a significant gap in available personnel, were also discussed. The leadership decided to re-categorize about 835 rated staff billets to non-rated positions, authorized funding to augment approximately 350 military-to-civilian conversions to fill some of the positions and endorsed the implementation of a rated management process led by the Aircrew Management Ex-

ecutive Council.

Because this was the first senior leader meeting after the release of the President's 2010 budget request, the leadership was briefed on future funding requirements as they relate to the fiscal year 2010 Presidential Budget and the development of next year's budget. The information and dialogue provided additional input for ongoing Air Force discussions in the Quadrennial Defense Review.

"In a resource constrained environment, we have to make tough choices on where to make investments," said Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force. "Forums like CORONA allow us to have frank, informed discussions about the strategic decisions ahead, as our investment strategy today will determine our Air Force of tomorrow."

"It was important that we lay out the FY10 budget decisions and fiscal guidance for the future so we could all see the full picture of where we're committing Air Force funds and what risks and opportunities we're considering in various programs," he said.

Leadership also identified some of the key requirements for the first 100 days of the new 24th Air Force, including establishing configuration standards for the Air Force Global Information Grid, instilling operations rigor in the Air Force network and updat-

ing key doctrine and Air Force Instructions to include cyber operations.

"Cyberspace is a contested domain which needs to be managed consistently across the Service," General Schwartz said. "As we bring 24th Air Force on line, we're going to see their work in cyberspace is going to impact all of us, and we all have a responsibility to follow the standards they set for Air Force networks."

The senior leaders also received an update on recent uniform initiatives, including the new material for the physical training uniform and the sage green leather boot to be tested this summer. A final decision on the heritage coat was deferred until 2010, after current uniform challenges are resolved.

"We owe it to our Airmen to fix or improve the uniforms they are currently wearing before we institute another uniform change," General Schwartz said.

Also of importance to Airmen will be the changes to the physical fitness program agreed to by the senior leaders. Scheduled to start in January 2010, changes to the physical fitness test standards will include a requirement to test twice a year. Testing will also be consolidated on all installations within a Fitness Assessment Cell, not administered within the units.

"It is crucial the physical fitness test be applied in a consistent manner across the force," said the general. "The changes to the testing standards will be clearer and more understandable and provide our Airmen with explicit feedback on how they can improve their fitness level."

As part of the Nuclear Oversight Board, senior leaders received an update on the status of the Nuclear Enterprise Roadmap initiatives. In the last six months inspections have been standardized, a central authority for nuclear weapons sustainment was established and key nuclear billets and required expertise were identified. In the near future, the Air Staff and Air Force Global Strike Command will align education, training and career development requirements to give personnel the necessary nuclear expertise, create strategic plans and long-term requirements for the nuclear enterprise and support the Nuclear Posture Review now being conducted by the Department of Defense.

Additional issues which were briefed and require further study include the full integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems and an operator career path for the Air Force and the designation of certain irregular warfare organizations.

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